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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
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Applicant(s): K. SATO

Serial No. : Not yet assigned

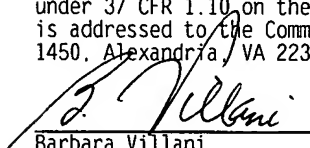
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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S I R :

Submitted herewith are copies of the publications identified on the attached Patent Office form PTO/SB/08A.

Japanese No. 9-2326 is identified on pages 2 and 3 of the specification.

Japanese No. 10-8500 is identified on pages 2 and 3 of the specification.

Japanese No. 2000-273910 is identified on pages 3 and 4 of the specification.

It is respectfully requested that these publications be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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|---|---|----|---|------------------------|--|----------|
| Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | | | Application Number | | |
| | | | | Filing Date | | Herewith |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | | SATO |
| | | | | Group Art Unit | | |
| | | | | Examiner Name | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | | 04036/LH |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Exam. Inits [*] | Cite No ¹ | Document Number | Kind Code ² | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Relevant Portion |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Exam Inits [*] | Cite No ¹ | Offc ³ | Document Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Relevant Portion | T ⁶ |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | | JP | 3-93214 | U | MIYASHITA | 09-24-1991 | | X* |
| | | JP | 4-28182 | U | MIYASHITA | 03-05-1992 | | X* |
| | | JP | 6-87025 | U | MORINAGA | 12-20-1994 | | X* |
| | | JP | 9-002326 | A | CALAMARI ET AL | 01-07-1997 | | X* |
| | | JP | 10-008500 | A | NISHIWAKI ET AL | 01-13-1998 | | X* |
| | | JP | 2000-273910 | A | FUJII ET AL | 10-03-2000 | | X* |
| | | | *English abstract attached. | | | | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

^{*} EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: **March 31, 2004**